

MARVEL

007

SOULE • BUFFAGNI • MILLA

# DAREDEVIL





WHEN MATT MURDOCK WAS A KID, HE LOST HIS SIGHT IN AN ACCIDENT INVOLVING A TRUCK CARRYING RADIOACTIVE CHEMICALS. THOUGH HE COULD NO LONGER SEE, THE CHEMICALS HEIGHTENED MURDOCK'S OTHER SENSES AND IMBUED HIM WITH AN AMAZING 360-RADAR SENSE. NOW MATT USES HIS ABILITIES TO FIGHT FOR HIS CITY. HE IS THE *MAN WITHOUT FEAR*. HE IS...

# DAREDEVIL

IN THE MONTHS SINCE HIS RETURN TO NEW YORK, FORMER DEFENSE ATTORNEY MATT MURDOCK HAS NOT ONLY BECOME A PROSECUTOR FOR THE CITY OF NEW YORK, HE'S ALSO SOMEHOW MANAGED TO HIDE HIS DUAL IDENTITY AND ERASE ANY PRIOR PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE THAT HE IS IN FACT *DAREDEVIL*.

BUT WHEN MURDOCK'S PAST PARAMOUR, THE DEADLY ASSASSIN *ELEKTRA*, SHOWED UP IN HELL'S KITCHEN WITH A SCORE TO SETTLE, THE *MAN WITHOUT FEAR* WAS FORCED TO FACE THE TRUE COST OF HIS REGAINING HIS SECRET IDENTITY...

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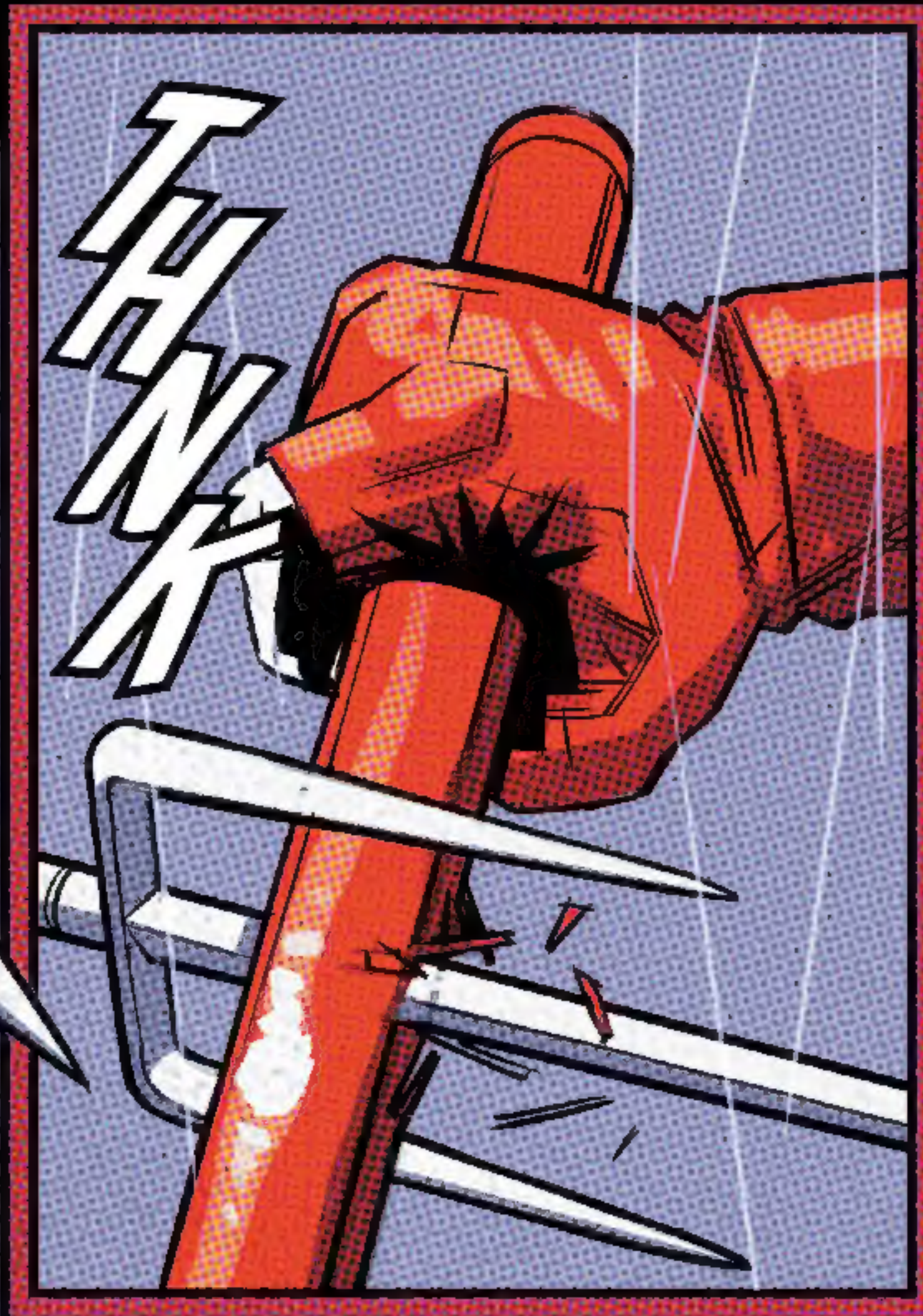
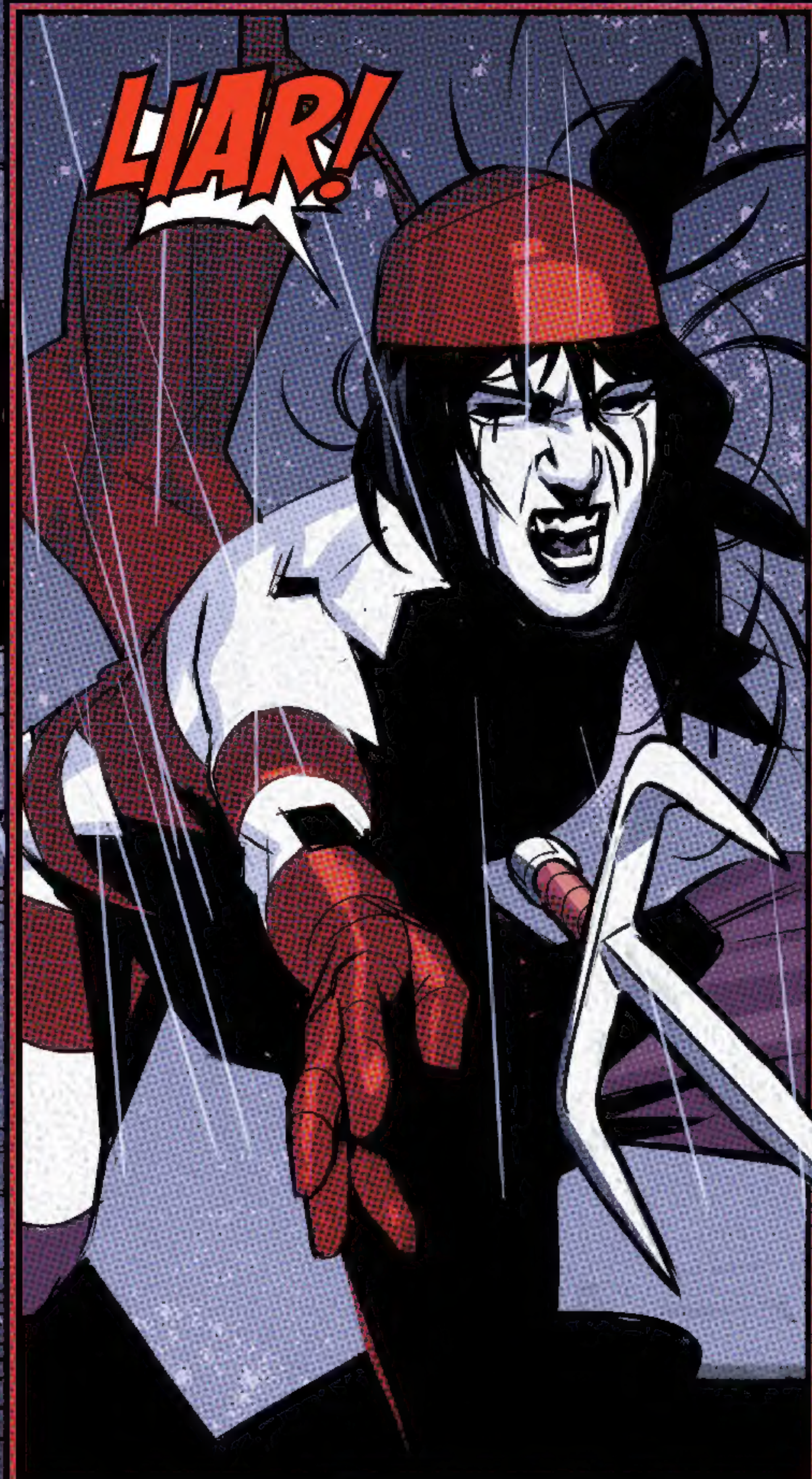




HELL'S KITCHEN.  
3 AM.

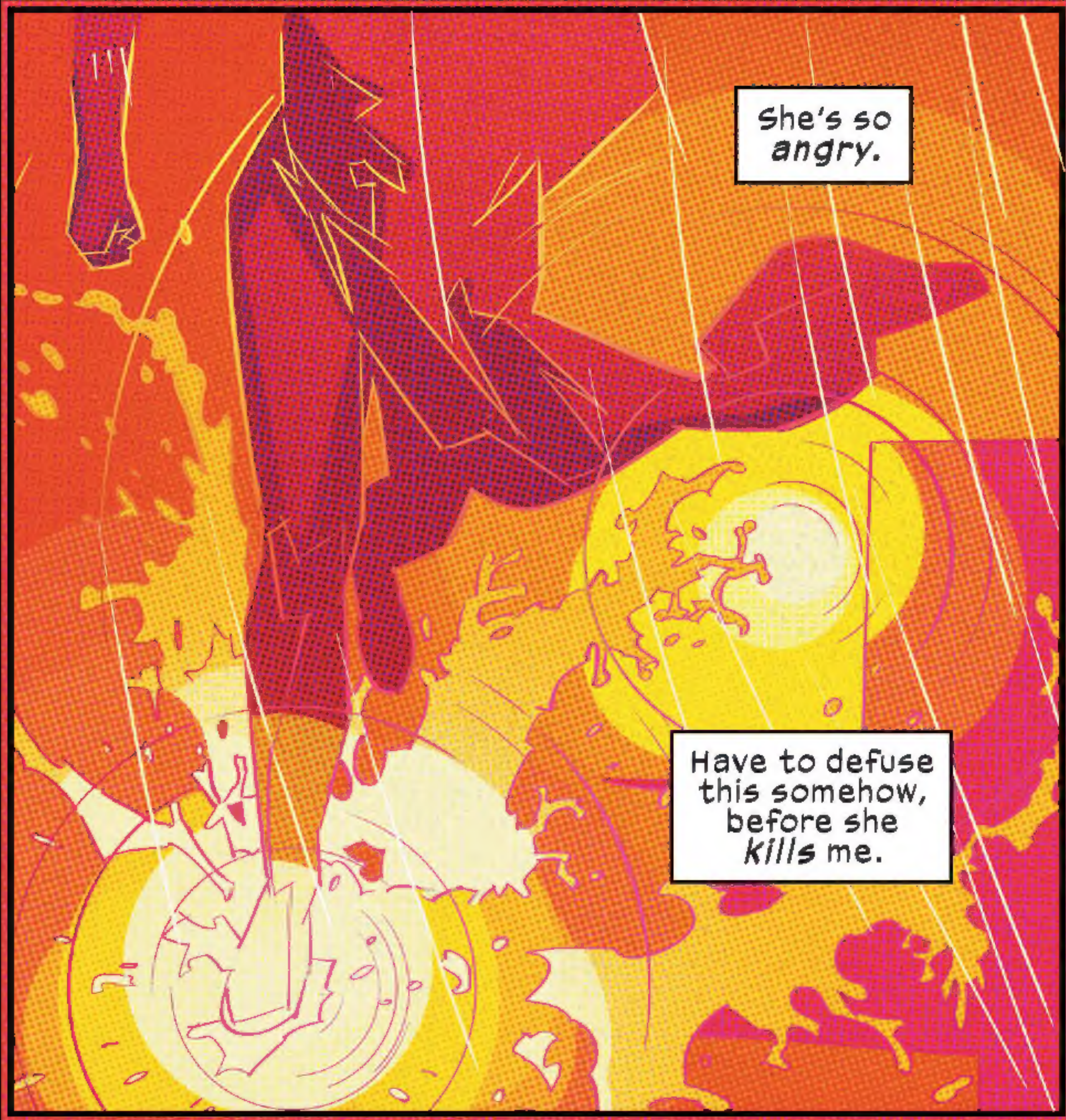
She  
thinks I took  
her *daughter*?  
But...

ELEKTRA...  
YOU DON'T HAVE  
A DAUGHTER.



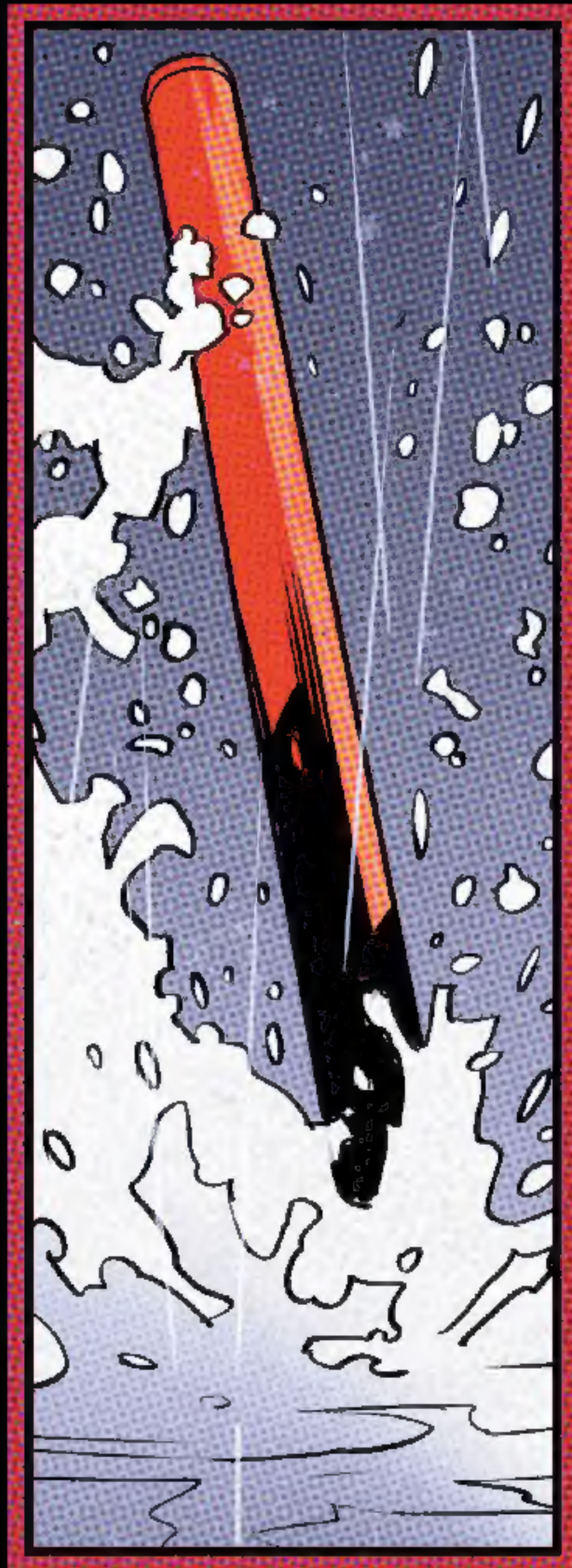
WHAT THE  
HELL IS WRONG  
WITH YOU?



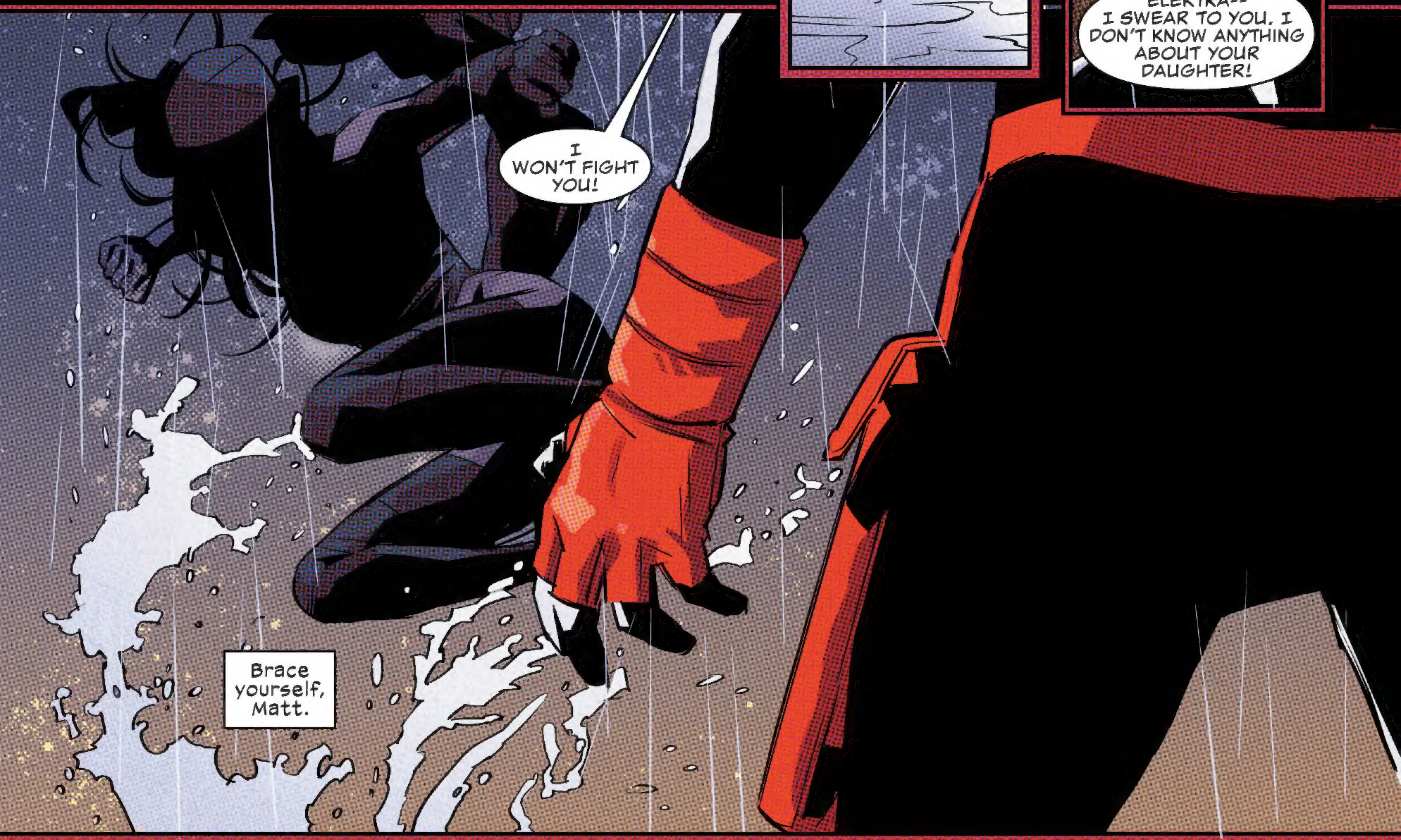


She's so  
angry.

Have to defuse  
this somehow,  
before she  
kills me.



ELEKTRA--  
I SWEAR TO YOU. I  
DON'T KNOW ANYTHING  
ABOUT YOUR  
DAUGHTER!



I  
WON'T FIGHT  
YOU!

Brace  
yourself,  
Matt.



This is going  
to h--



KRRRK

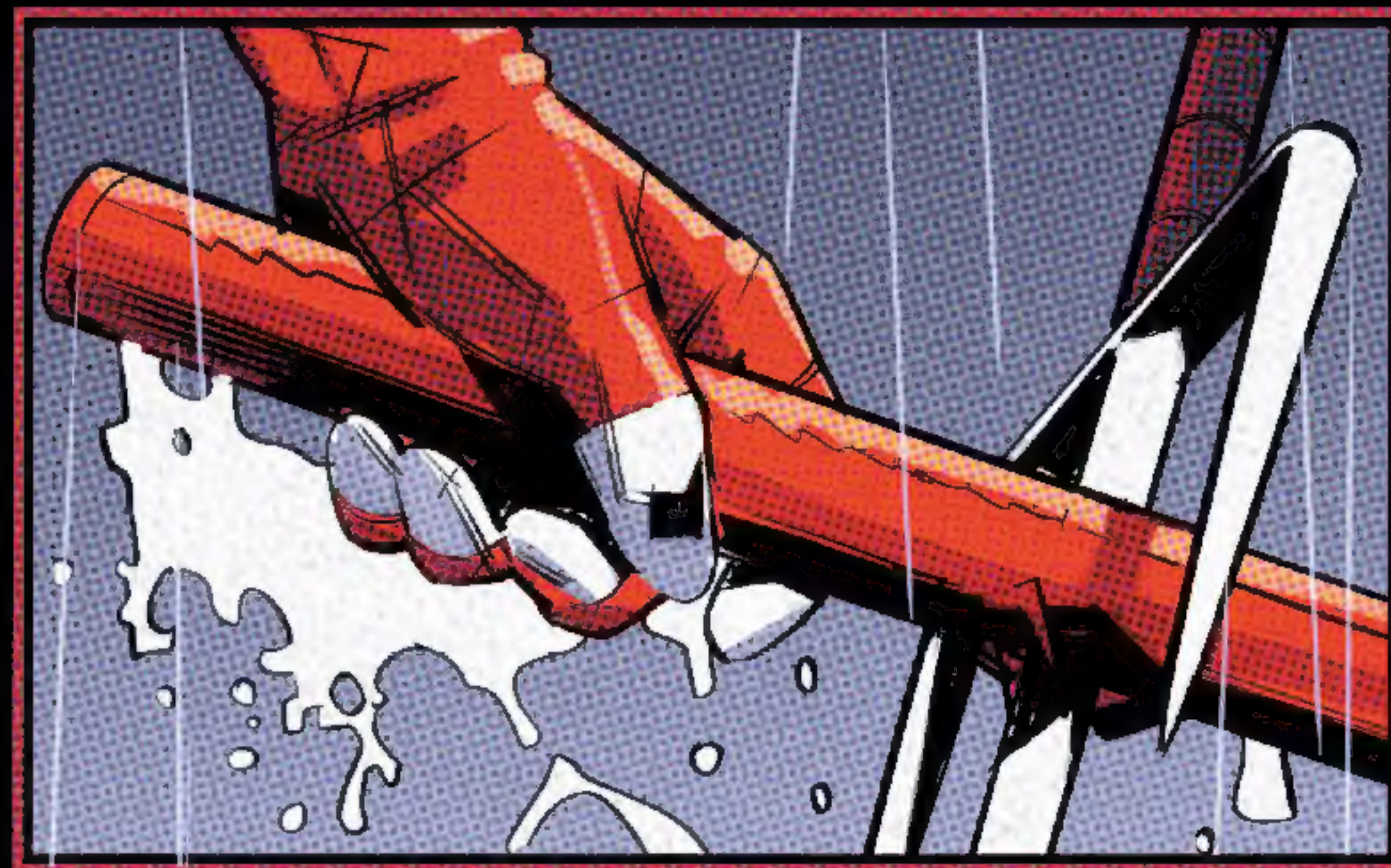




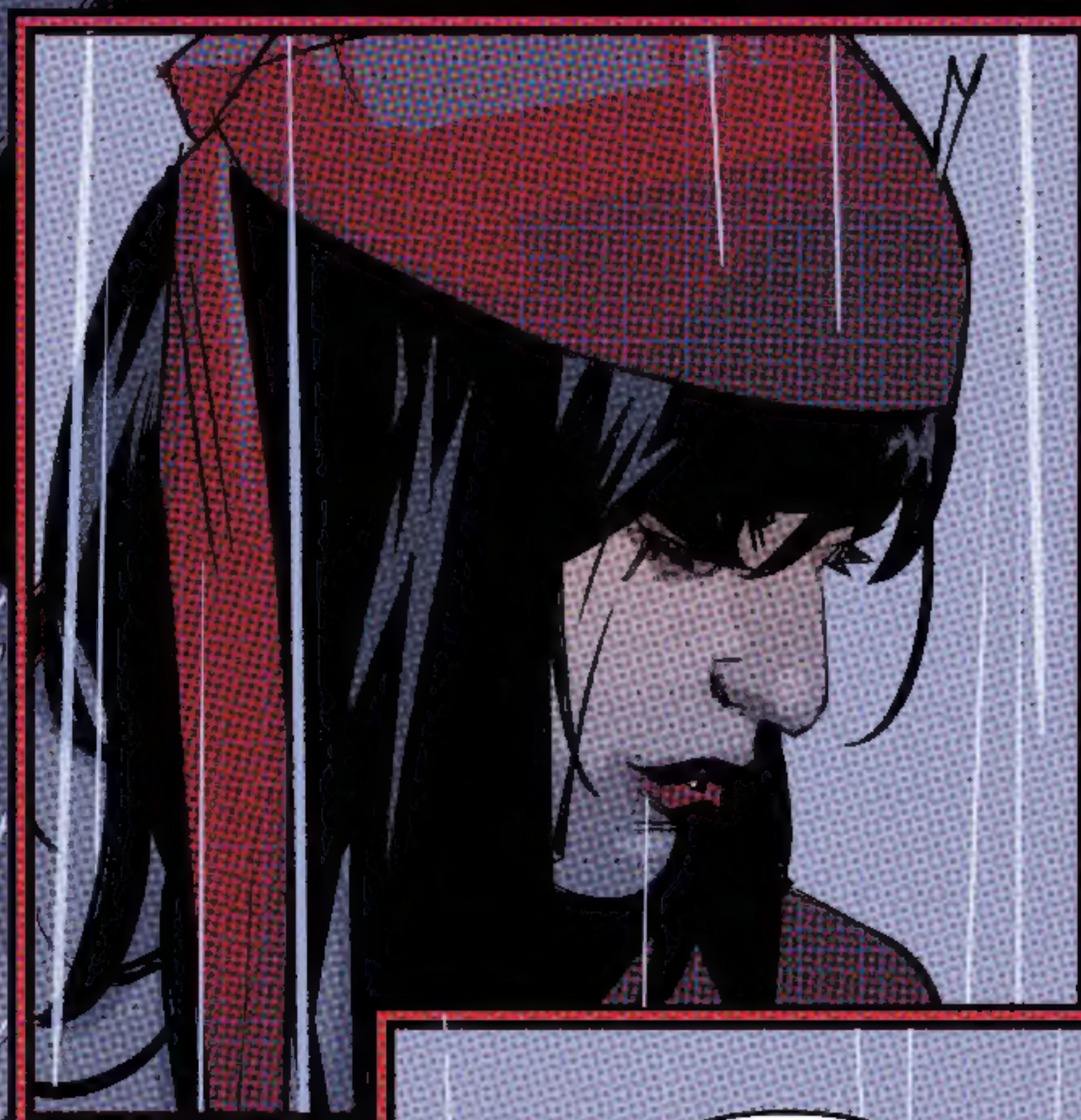
AGH!

She pulled that kick at the last minute--or I'd be dead.

Something about this feels strange to her, too.



So I've got a chance.



PLEASE.  
PLEASE.

JUST TALK  
TO ME, TELL ME  
WHAT'S GOING  
ON.

I  
WON'T FIGHT  
YOU.

BUT I  
MIGHT BE ABLE  
TO HELP.

Maybe.

YOU  
KNOW ME. WE'VE  
FOUGHT EACH OTHER  
A HUNDRED TIMES,  
AND YOU'VE SEEN ME  
FIGHT A THOUSAND  
MORE.

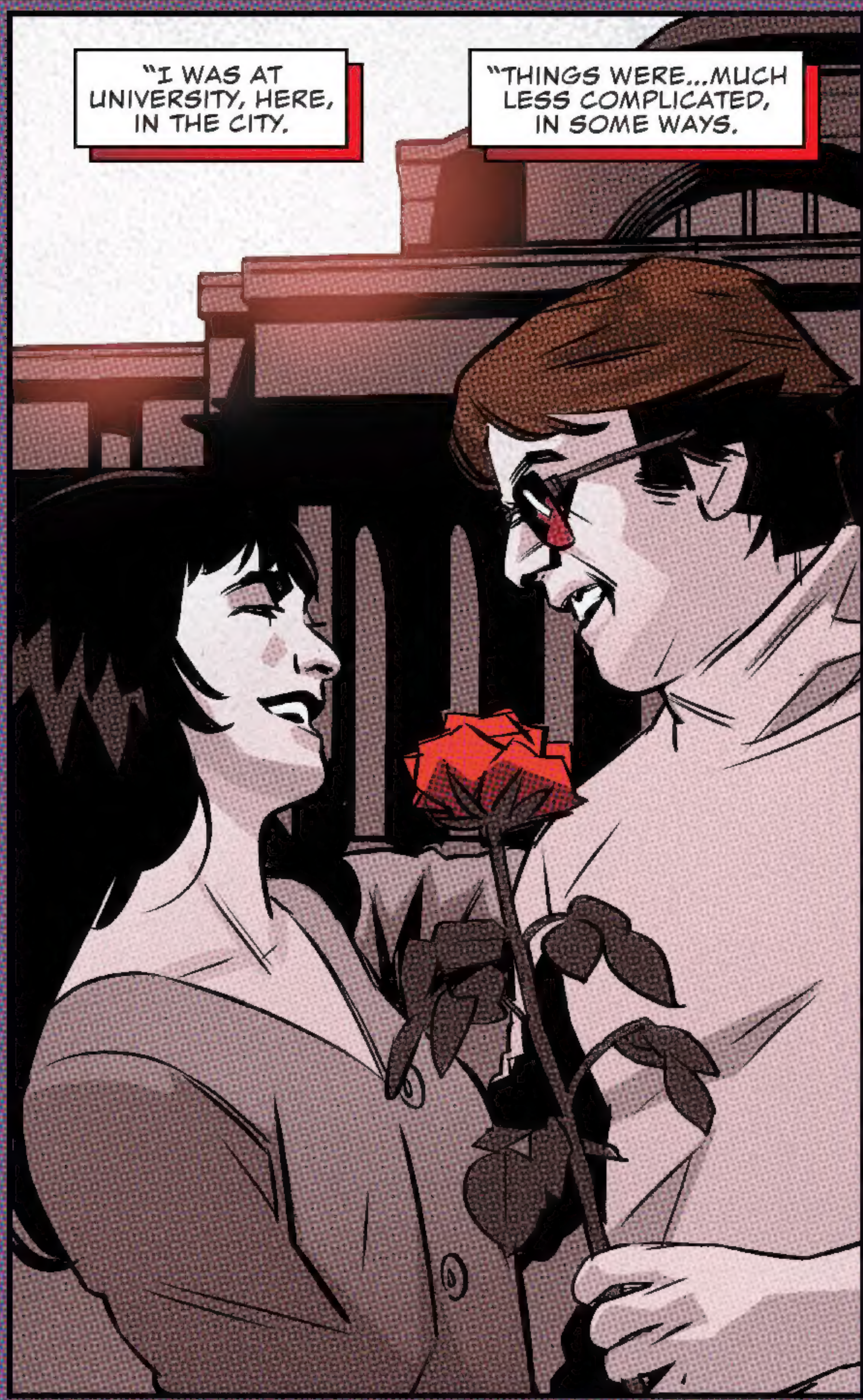
IN  
ALL OF THAT...HAVE  
YOU EVER SEEN ME  
SURRENDER?











"I WAS AT UNIVERSITY, HERE, IN THE CITY.

"THINGS WERE...MUCH LESS COMPLICATED, IN SOME WAYS.



"AND THEN, THEY BECAME VERY COMPLICATED INDEED.



"MY FATHER WAS KILLED, AND I LEARNED THAT THERE IS NO VALUE IN LAW, OR LOVE.

"BELIEVING IN EITHER IS A WASTE OF TIME.



"AND SO I LEFT BOTH BEHIND.



"I TRAINED, WITH STICK, IN CHINA. I WAS A MEMBER OF HIS GROUP-- THE CHASTE."

"THIS WAS DURING MY PREGNANCY. STICK DID NOT CARE."

"BUT I DID. I FOUND MYSELF THINKING ABOUT THIS CHILD...WHO SHE WOULD BE. HOW MY LIFE MIGHT TOUCH HERS. HOW MY DARKNESS MIGHT TOUCH HER LIGHT."

"IONA WAS BORN IN STICK'S MONASTERY, PERHAPS EIGHT MONTHS AFTER I ARRIVED."

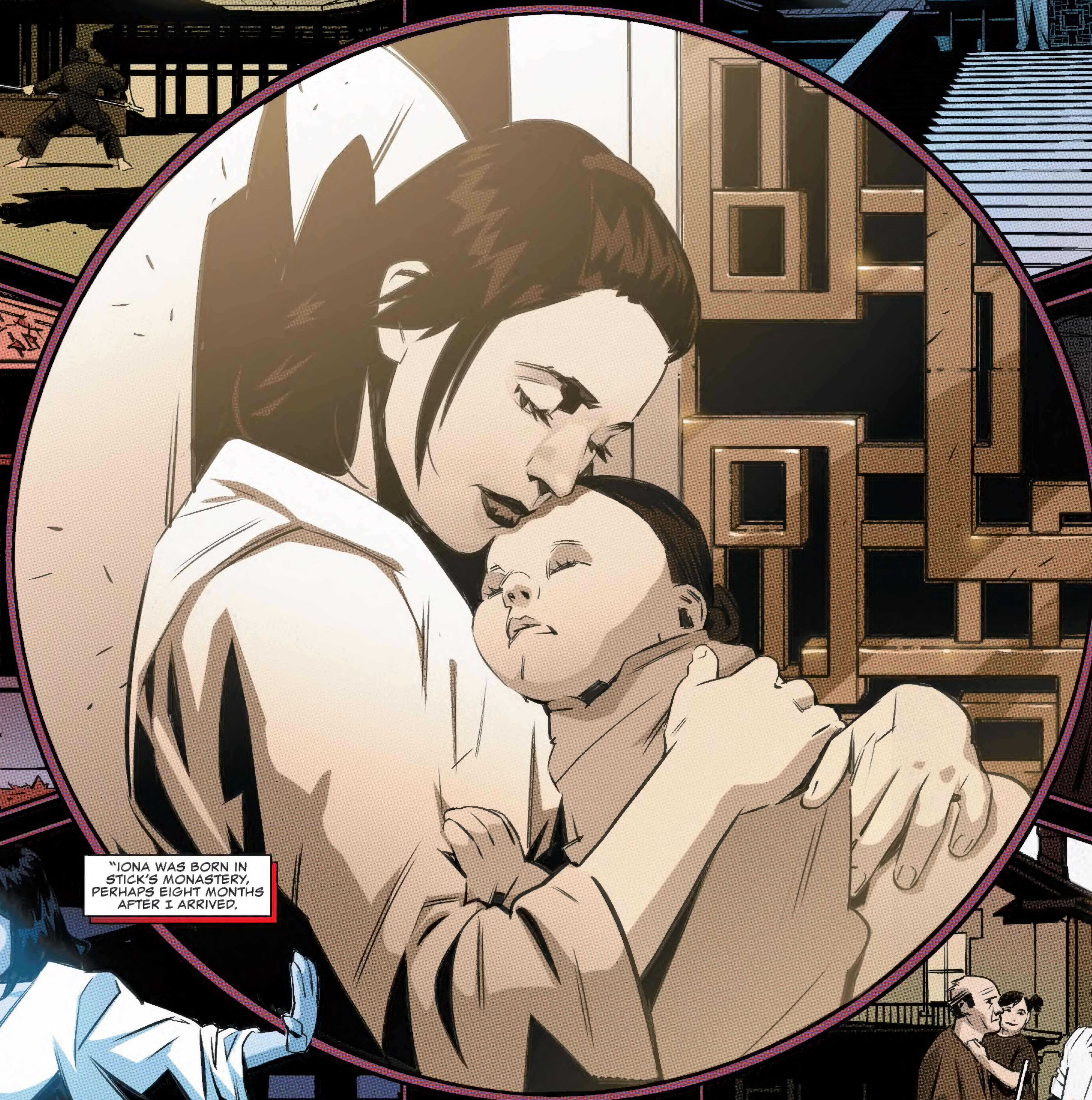
"I LEFT THE CHILD WITH STICK AND THE CHASTE, AND TOOK A PLEDGE FROM HIM THAT HE WOULD FIND A LIFE FOR HER FAR FROM MINE."

"I NEVER WANTED HER TO SEE ME AGAIN, BECAUSE EVEN THEN, I KNEW THE PATH MY LIFE WAS LIKELY TO TAKE."

"AND SO IT DID."

"I DON'T KNOW WHERE STICK TOOK HER. I DIDN'T WANT TO KNOW."

"I ONLY KNEW THAT SHE WAS FAR FROM ME. AND STICK TOLD ME SHE WAS SAFE. THAT WAS ENOUGH."







BUT NOW,  
SHE HAS BEEN  
TAKEN.

AND  
NOTHING WILL BE  
ENOUGH. NOT UNTIL  
I FIND HER.

No. It's not  
possible.

ELEKTRA...

...WHO  
IS IONA'S  
FATHER?

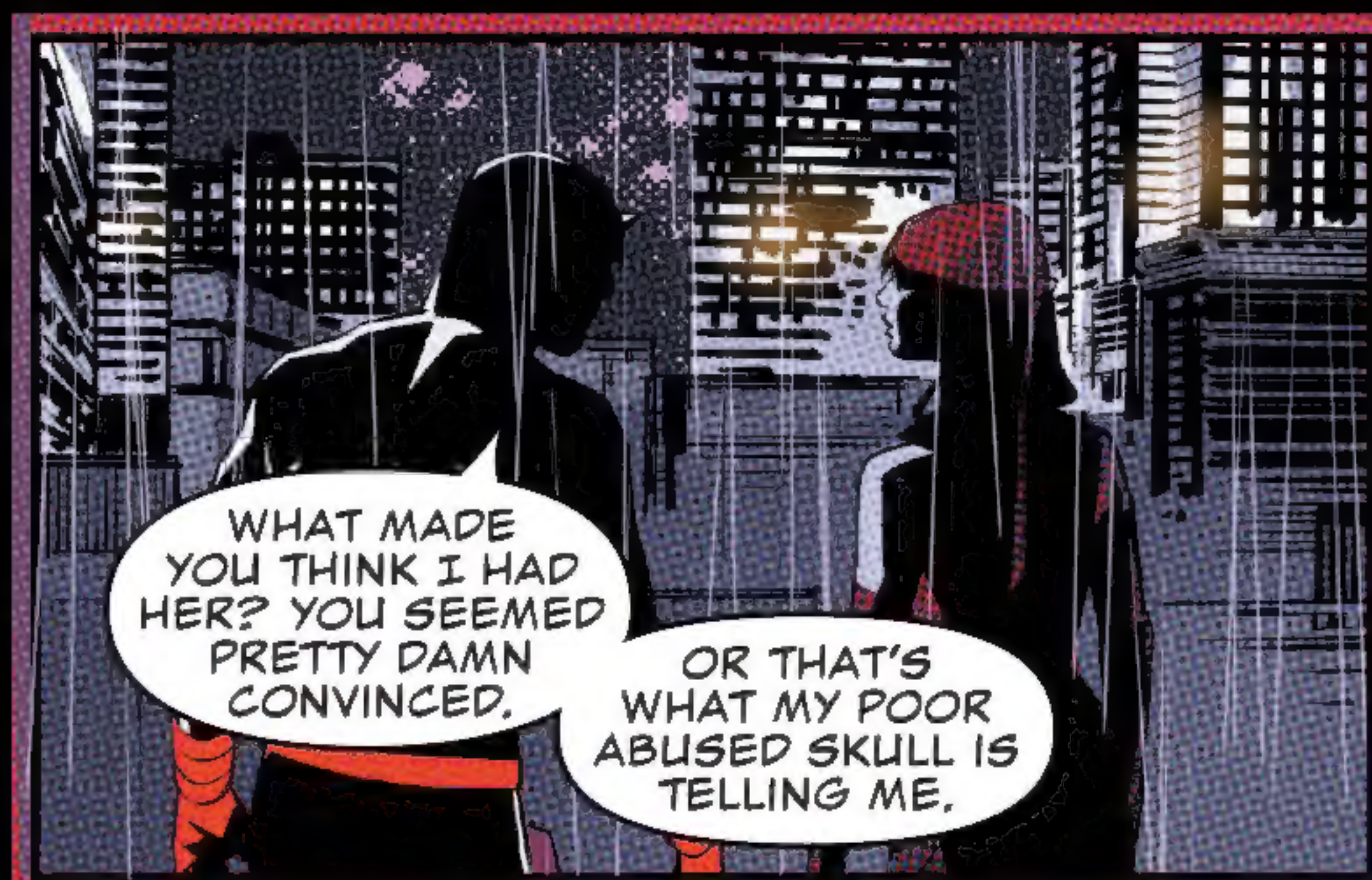
But if the  
timing's right...  
it could...it could  
be possible.



A MAN.  
IT DOESN'T  
MATTER. IF I WANTED  
HIM TO KNOW,  
HE WOULD  
KNOW.

I WANTED  
IONA TO LIVE HER  
OWN LIFE, FAR FROM  
ME AND HER  
FATHER.

Hnh. That is...  
pretty damn  
inconclusive.



WHAT MADE  
YOU THINK I HAD  
HER? YOU SEEMED  
PRETTY DAMN  
CONVINCED.

OR THAT'S  
WHAT MY POOR  
ABUSED SKULL IS  
TELLING ME.



I'LL SHOW  
YOU. MAYBE YOU  
CAN FIND SOME  
TRUTH IN IT.



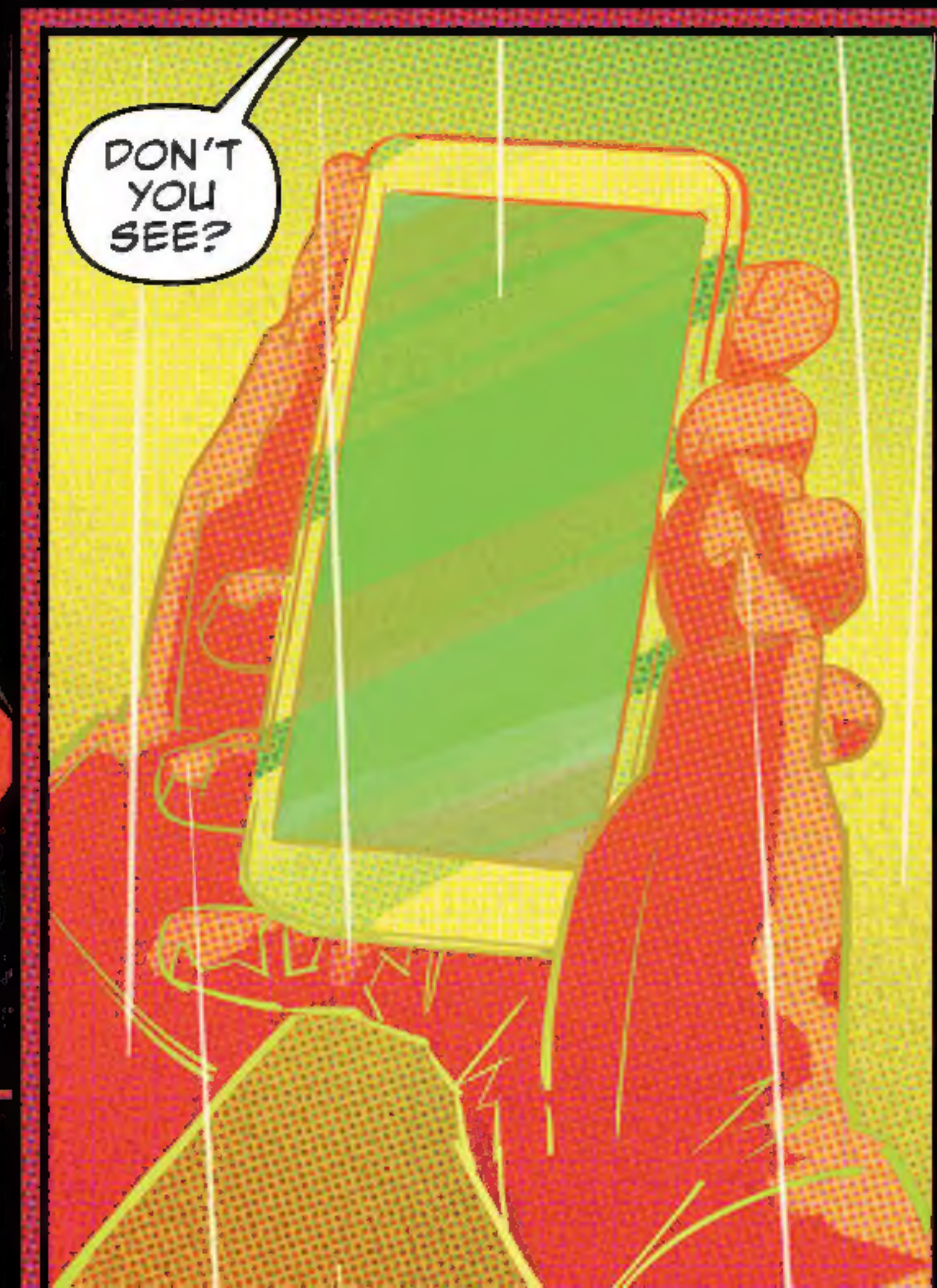
THIS  
IS THE VIDEO  
I WAS GIVEN. THE  
GIRL--THAT'S  
IONA.

NO  
SOUND, BUT  
THE TECHNIQUES  
SHE'S USING--THE  
HAND. I'M SURE YOU  
RECOGNIZE THEM,  
TOO. THEY MUST  
HAVE TRAINED  
HER.

AND  
THERE YOU  
ARE, WATCHING...  
SUPERVISING...  
AS SHE...



AREN'T YOU  
GOING TO SAY  
ANYTHING?



DON'T  
YOU  
SEE?



9 AM.

WHAT AM I LOOKING AT HERE?

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR HELPING WITH THIS, FOGGY. I KNOW WE'RE GOING THROUGH A ROUGH PATCH, AND I RESPECT THAT YOU WANT SOME SPACE, BUT THERE'S A CHILD INVOLVED.

THE LITTLE GIRL--HER NAME IS IONA. SHE'S ELEKTRA'S... DAUGHTER.

ELEKTRA HAS A KID? SHE NEVER SEEMED ALL THAT MOTHERLY.

OFFICES OF FRANKLIN P. NELSON, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW.

SHE'D PROBABLY AGREE. ELEKTRA GAVE IONA TO A FOSTER FAMILY WHEN SHE WAS A BABY. DIDN'T WANT TO TAINT A CHILD WITH AN ASSASSIN'S LIFE.

ELEKTRA'S GOTTEN UPDATES FROM TIME TO TIME, BUT SHE STAYED AWAY. SHE THOUGHT IONA WAS SAFE, UNTIL... WELL, YOU CAN SEE.

UH-HUH.

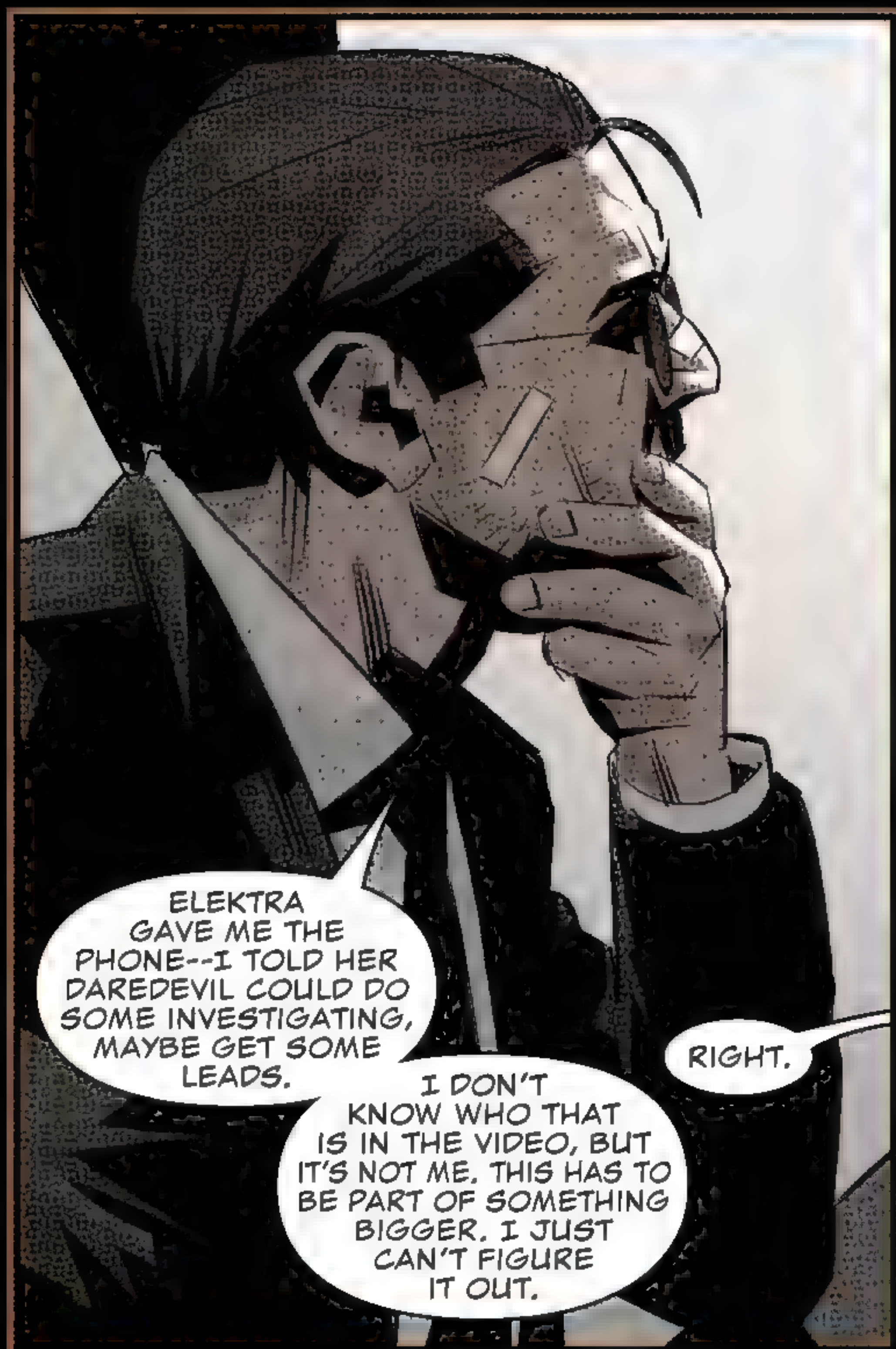
IS THERE ANY WAY THIS IS YOUR DAUGHTER, MATT? I MEAN, YOU AND ELEKTRA WERE...

I DON'T KNOW. IT'S POSSIBLE. THE TIMING SEEMS TO WORK OUT--BUT I'M NOT THINKING ABOUT THAT RIGHT NOW.

THAT'S FOR LATER. RIGHT NOW, I JUST WANT TO FIND HER.

UH-HUH.

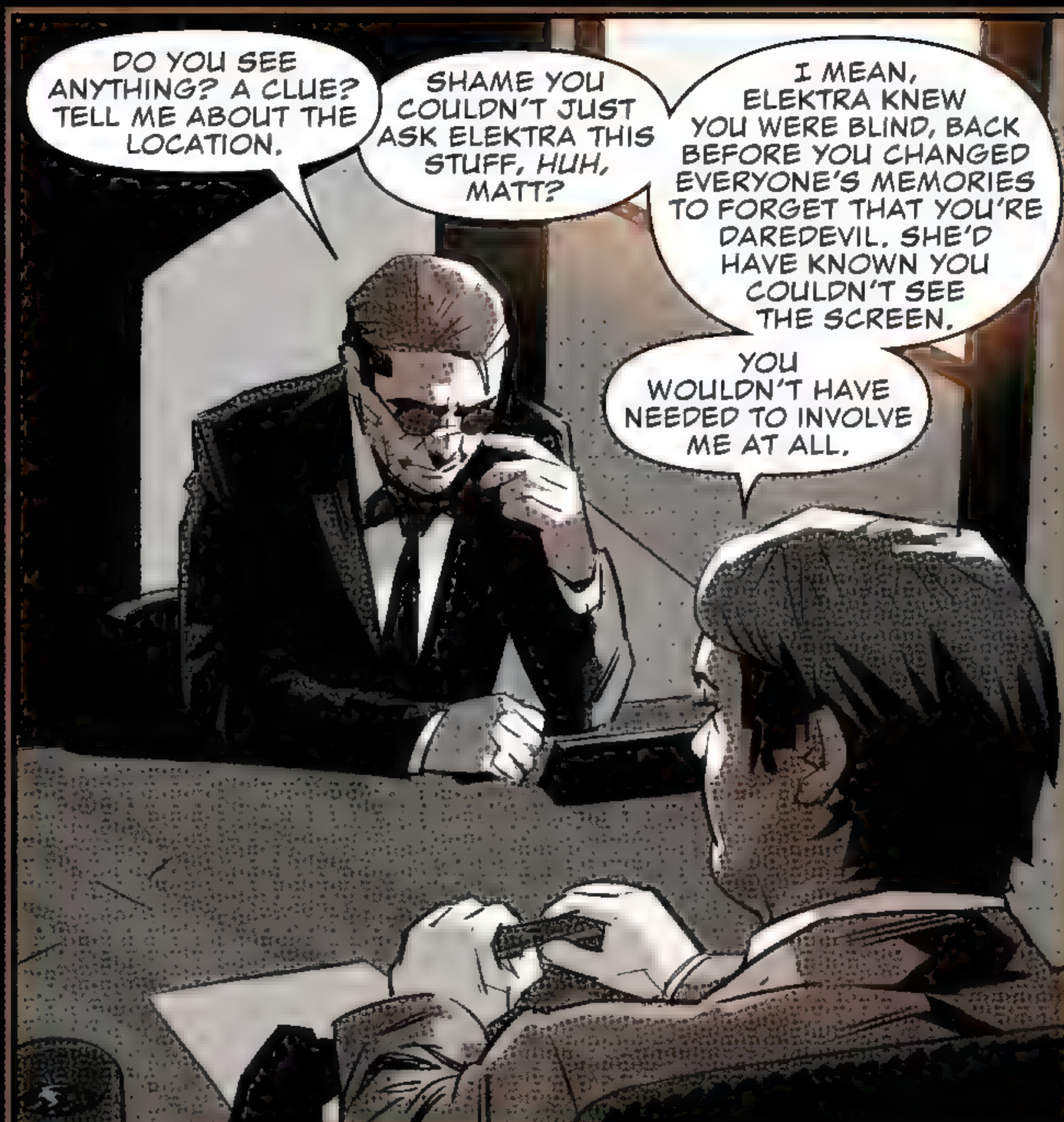




ELEKTRA GAVE ME THE PHONE--I TOLD HER DAREDEVIL COULD DO SOME INVESTIGATING, MAYBE GET SOME LEADS.

RIGHT.

I DON'T KNOW WHO THAT IS IN THE VIDEO, BUT IT'S NOT ME. THIS HAS TO BE PART OF SOMETHING BIGGER. I JUST CAN'T FIGURE IT OUT.



DO YOU SEE ANYTHING? A CLUE? TELL ME ABOUT THE LOCATION.

SHAME YOU COULDN'T JUST ASK ELEKTRA THIS STUFF, HUH, MATT?

I MEAN, ELEKTRA KNEW YOU WERE BLIND, BACK BEFORE YOU CHANGED EVERYONE'S MEMORIES TO FORGET THAT YOU'RE DAREDEVIL. SHE'D HAVE KNOWN YOU COULDN'T SEE THE SCREEN.

YOU WOULDN'T HAVE NEEDED TO INVOLVE ME AT ALL.



SEEMS LIKE THE MORE SECRETS YOU KEEP, THE HARDER THINGS GET.



LISTEN, MATT-- IF THIS CHILD IS REALLY IN DANGER, I HOPE YOU FIND HER.

REALLY IN DANGER? WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT, FOGGY?

I THINK SOMEONE'S PLAYING YOU, PAL. MAYBE ELEKTRA. OR MAYBE SHE'S BEING PLAYED, TOO. THERE'S NOTHING HERE. THE DAMN PHONE'S EMPTY. NO VIDEO.



THERE'S NOTHING TO SEE.





9:30 AM.

This makes  
no *sense*.

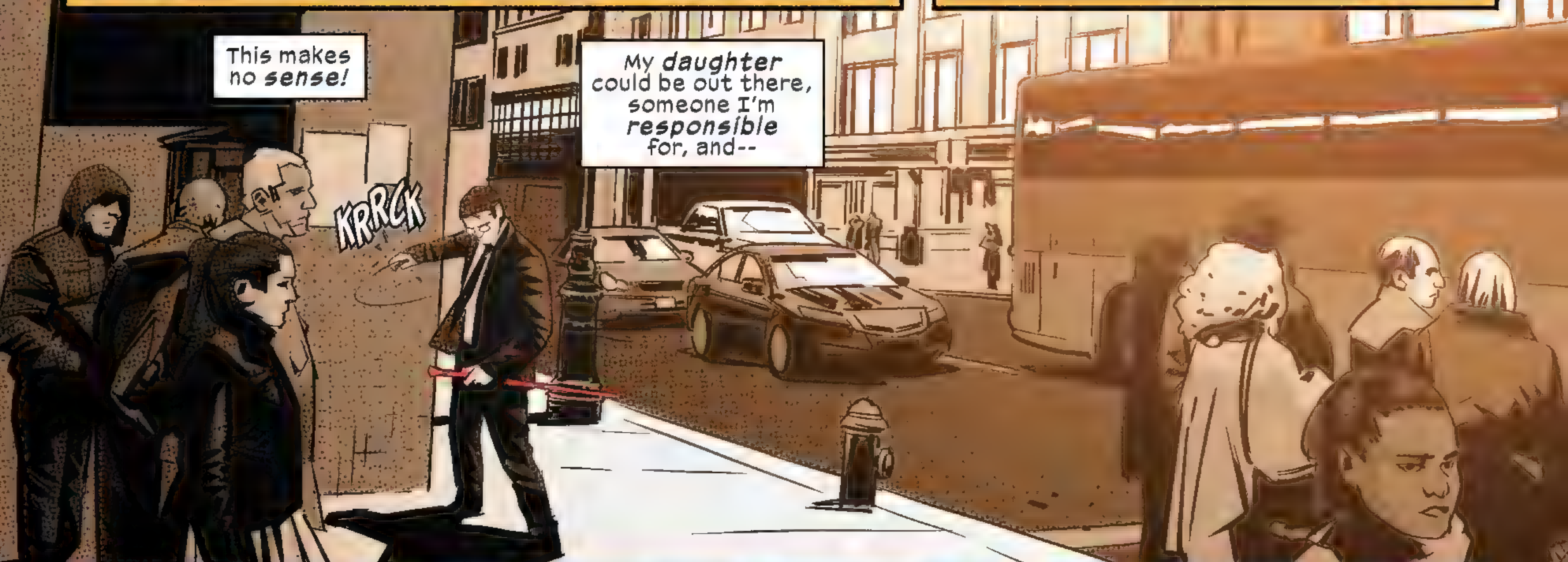
Is Elektra *lying* to  
me? She's smart--  
she's certainly capable  
of pulling a long con--  
but *why*?

The fear in her voice--  
the emotion when  
she talked about Iona--  
her *heartbeat*.

No.  
It's *real*.



So why was  
there nothing on  
the damn phone?

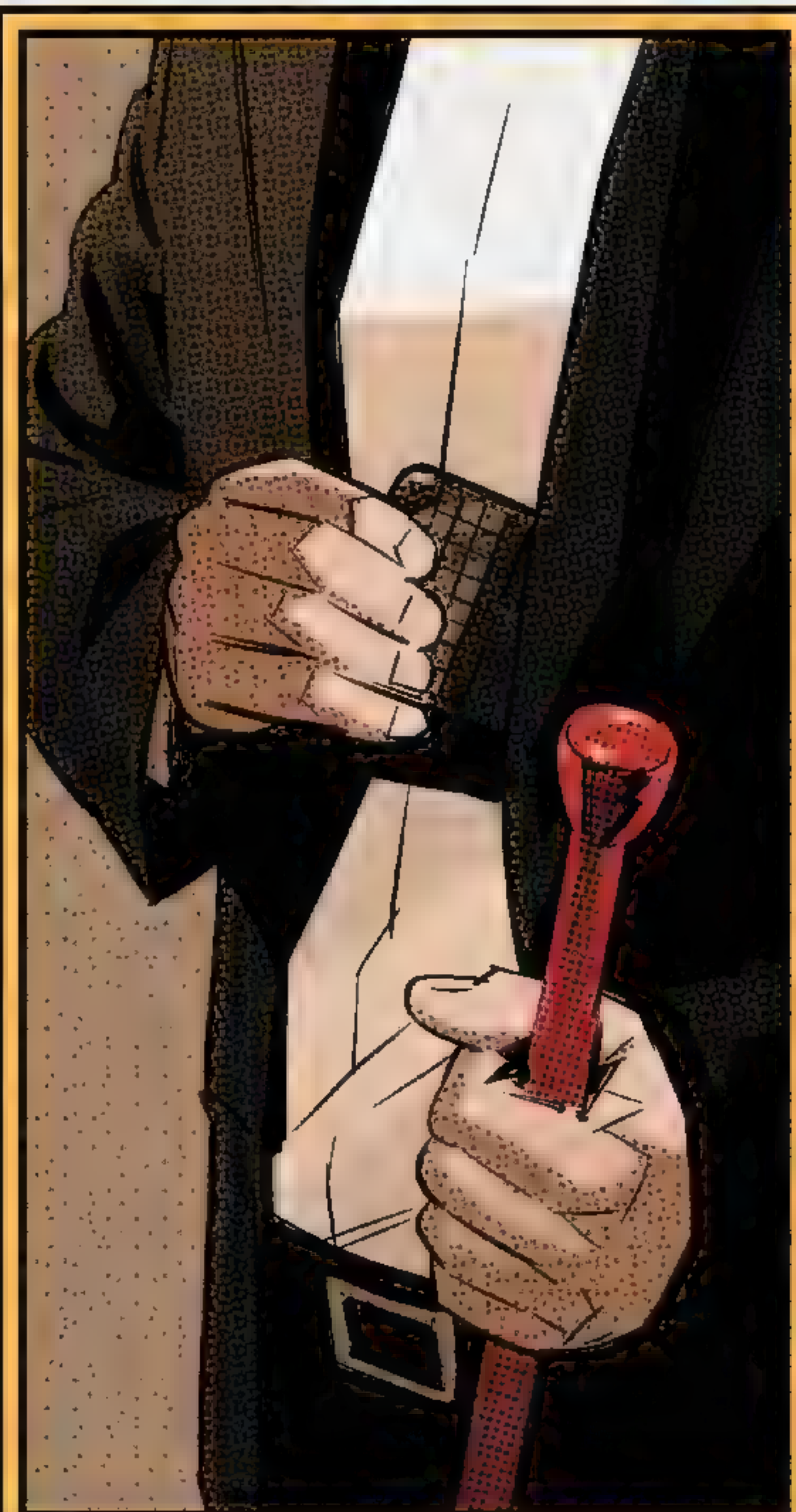


This makes  
no *sense*!

My *daughter*  
could be out there,  
someone I'm  
*responsible*  
for, and--



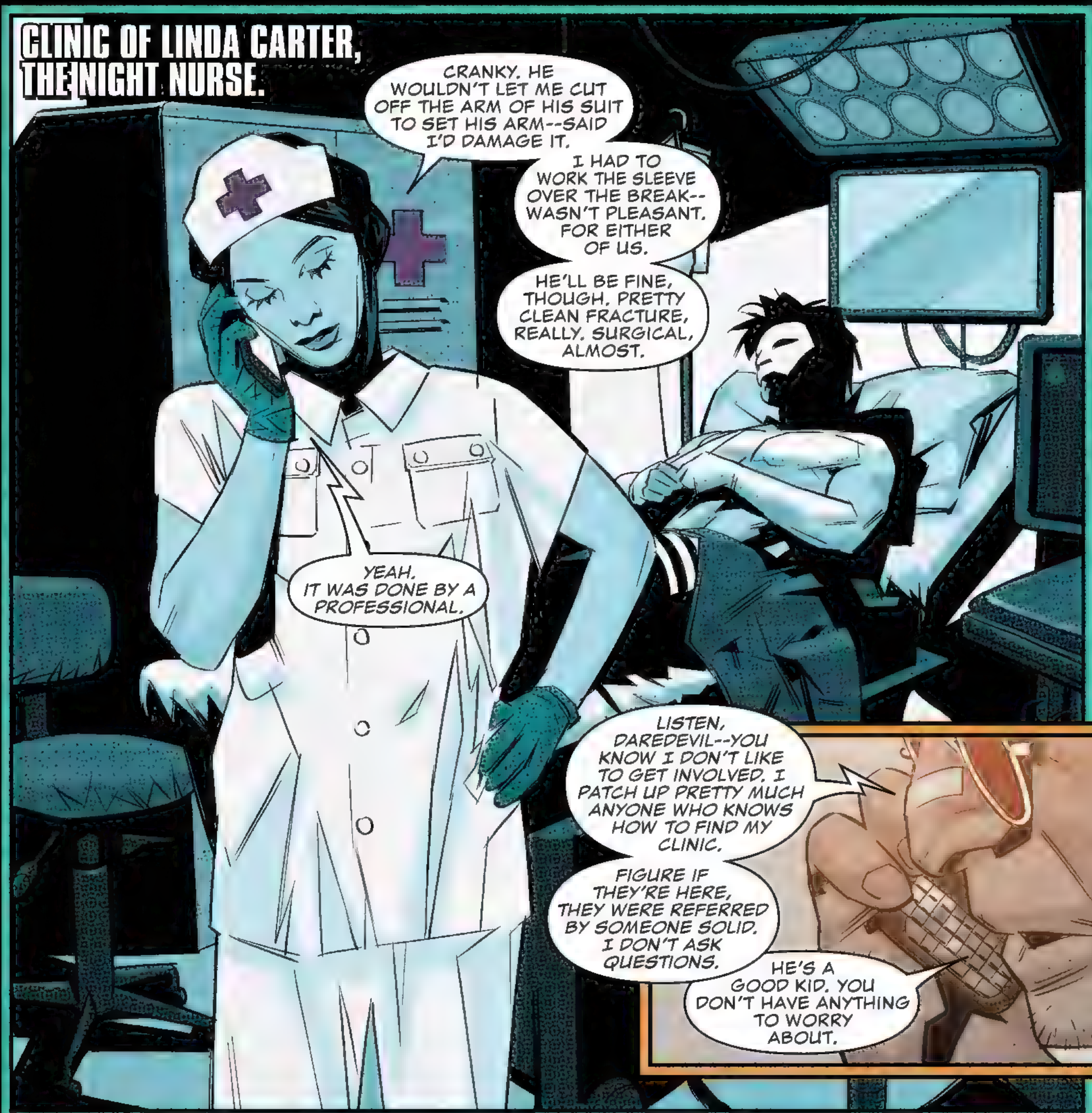
Someone I'm  
responsible for.



IT'S ME,  
LINDA. HOW  
IS HE?



**CLINIC OF LINDA CARTER,  
THE NIGHT NURSE.**



CRANKY. HE WOULDN'T LET ME CUT OFF THE ARM OF HIS SUIT TO SET HIS ARM--SAID I'D DAMAGE IT.

I HAD TO WORK THE SLEEVE OVER THE BREAK-- WASN'T PLEASANT. FOR EITHER OF US.

HE'LL BE FINE, THOUGH, PRETTY CLEAN FRACTURE, REALLY. SURGICAL, ALMOST.

YEAH. IT WAS DONE BY A PROFESSIONAL.

LISTEN, DAREDEVIL--YOU KNOW I DON'T LIKE TO GET INVOLVED. I PATCH UP PRETTY MUCH ANYONE WHO KNOWS HOW TO FIND MY CLINIC.

FIGURE IF THEY'RE HERE, THEY WERE REFERRED BY SOMEONE SOLID. I DON'T ASK QUESTIONS.

HE'S A GOOD KID. YOU DON'T HAVE ANYTHING TO WORRY ABOUT.



I'M NOT WORRIED ABOUT ME, LIKE YOU SAID, HE'S A KID--AND YOU'VE ALREADY SENT HIM TO ME TWICE.



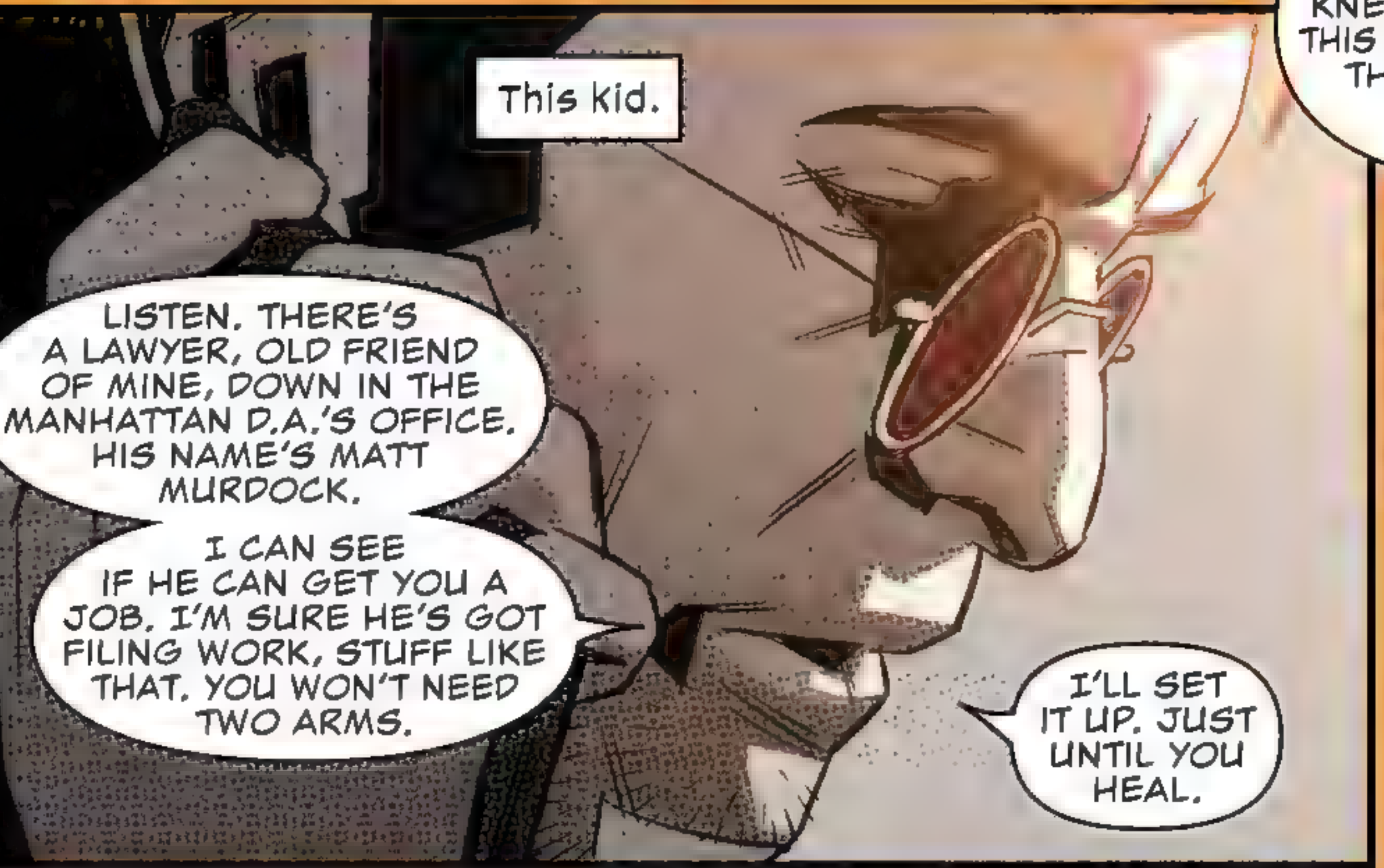
YOU SURE YOU KNOW WHAT THE HELL YOU'RE DOING HERE? I MEAN, WHAT'S HE DOING AROUND...WHAT'D YOU SAY... PROFESSIONALS?





NO, MAN, I'M GLAD I WAS THERE. FAR AS I CAN TELL, I KEPT YOU FROM GETTING STABBED. BROKEN ARM'S A SMALL PRICE TO PAY.

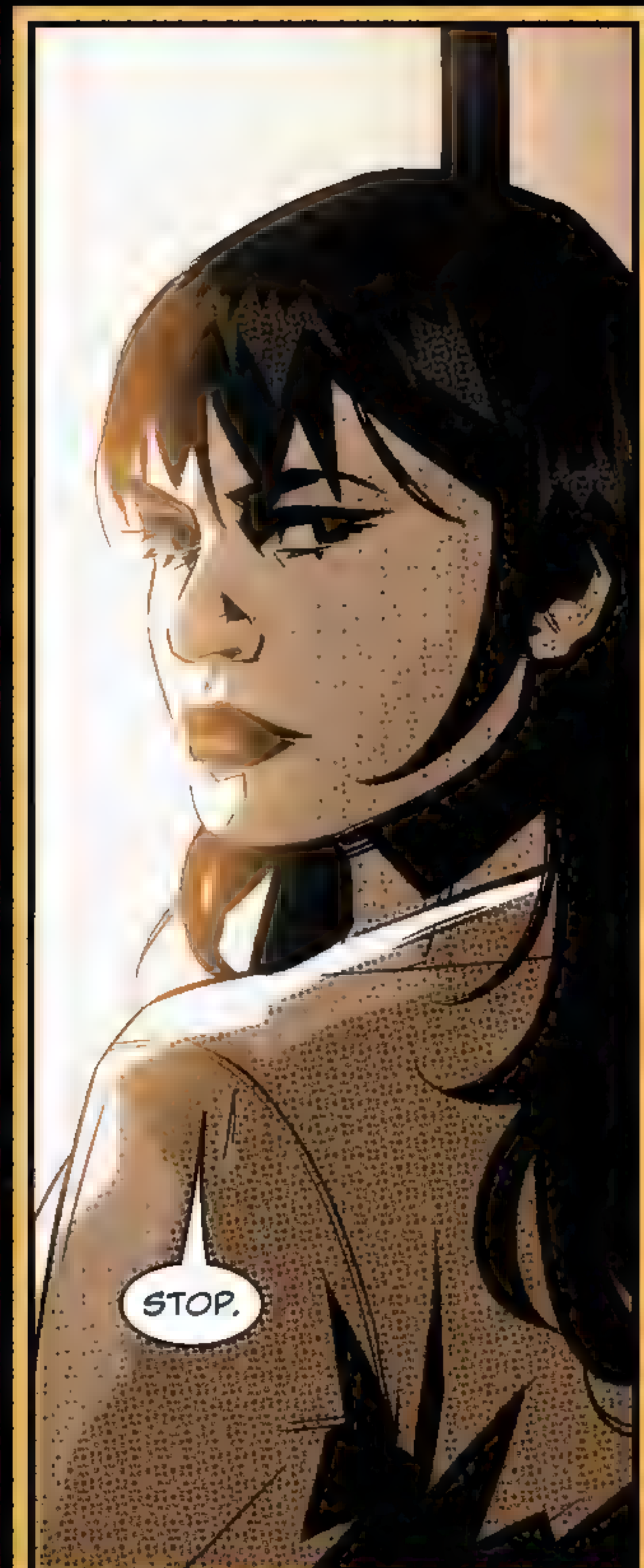
My God... this kid...



I...THANK YOU. HONESTLY, THAT SOUNDS AMAZING.









Her heart...it's *slowed*.  
Like a sniper, just before  
they take a shot.

YOU'RE  
TELLING ME  
THAT MY ONLY  
LEAD TOWARDS MY  
DAUGHTER WAS  
SOME SORT  
OF TRICK?

AND THE  
ONE PIECE OF  
EVIDENCE I HAD--  
PROOF THAT *YOU* ARE  
BEHIND ALL OF THIS--  
WAS CONVENIENTLY  
DESTROYED?

I AM.

BUT  
KNOWING  
WHO YOU ARE, AND  
HOW YOU WOULD  
LIKELY REACT TO  
THAT NEWS...

...I CAME  
HERE AND TOLD  
YOU ANYWAY.

LET ME HELP,  
ELEKTRA.

I DON'T  
WANT YOUR HELP,  
DAREDEVIL. I NEED  
TO UNDERSTAND  
THIS ON MY  
OWN.

IF THAT  
CHANGES,  
OR IF I FIND OUT  
YOU'RE LYING  
TO ME...

...ONE WAY OR  
ANOTHER...

...I'LL  
FIND  
YOU.





I think I almost died back there.

But it was all I could think to do.



I need to know more, and Elektra doesn't trust me enough right now to tell me anything.

She was never good at waiting. If she can't get what she needs from me, she'll find it somewhere else.



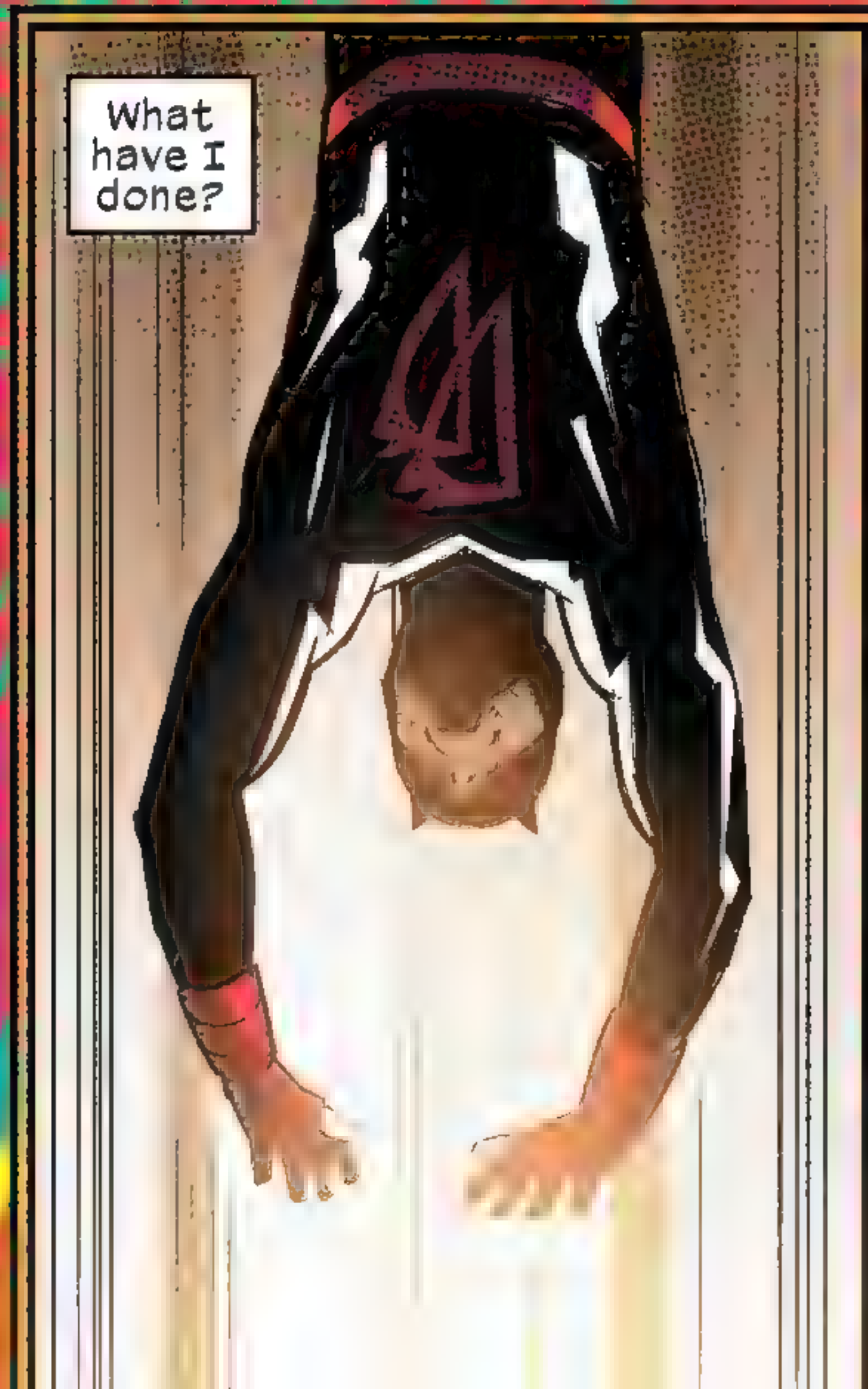
Because there's a question here, and it's probably the key to all of this.

Who gave her that phone?



OH, NO.

SSSK KPSH  
YEEEAGH! NNGH!

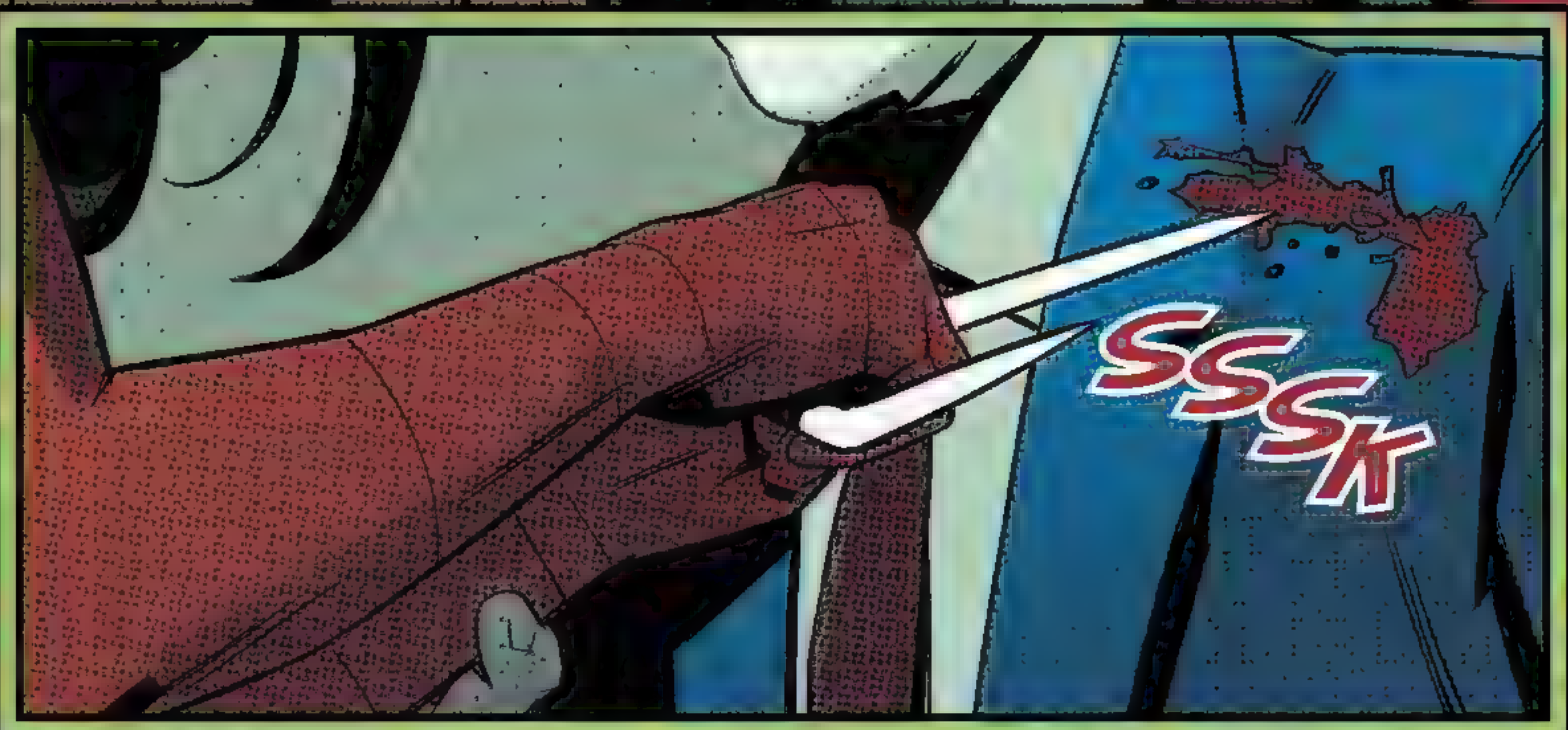


What have I done?



WHY DID  
YOU LIE TO ME?  
WHY DID YOU GIVE ME  
THAT PHONE? WHY DID  
YOU SEND ME AFTER  
DAREDEVIL?

IT WAS  
JUST A JOB!  
I...I...

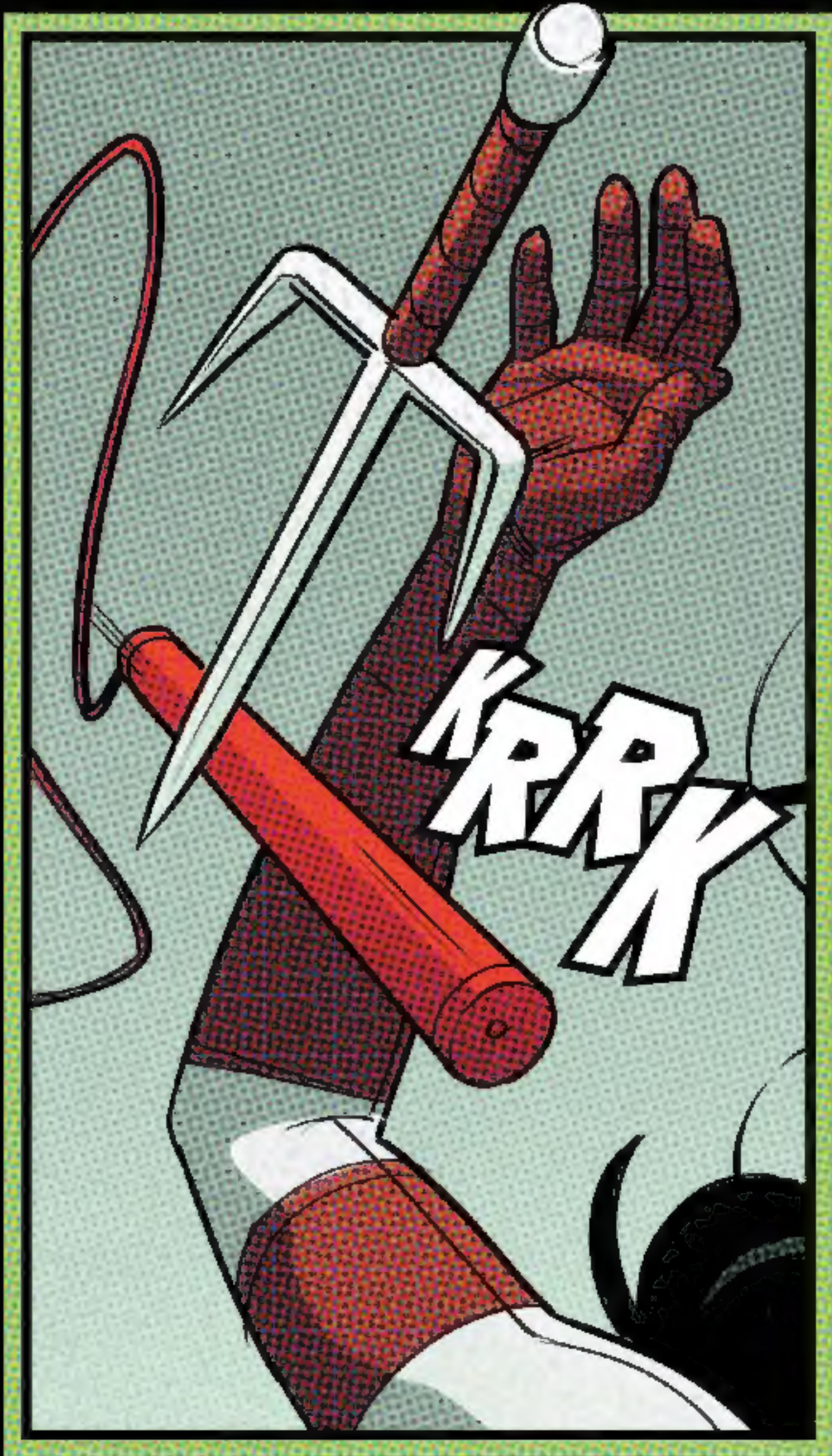


TELL  
ME THE  
TRUTH!

AGH!

TELL  
ME OR  
DIE!





ELEKTRA...  
STOP!



HOW  
MANY CHANCES  
DO YOU THINK I'M  
PREPARED TO  
GIVE YOU,  
FOOL?

THE...  
THE...



THE  
TANGLED WEB  
WE WEAVE!



NNNNNNHH...

Oh, no.



I  
understand  
now.

WHAT  
DID YOU DO  
TO HER? TELL  
ME!

N-NOTHING, I  
SWEAR. I JUST...  
WHEN SHE CAME  
BACK, I WAS SUPPOSED  
TO SAY THAT TO HER.  
I DON'T KNOW WHY.  
I SWEAR TO  
GOD!



This was never about Elektra.

ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

THAT PHRASE... IT UNLOCKED MY MIND. IT...IT WAS ALL A LIE.

It was an attack--aimed at me.

I NEVER... I NEVER HAD A DAUGHTER. SOMEONE WANTED ME TO BELIEVE-- TO GO THROUGH THAT--TO FEEL THAT PAIN...

I DIDN'T KNOW I *COULD* FEEL LIKE THAT. I'VE NEVER FELT LIKE THAT.

THEY DID THAT TO ME... GAVE ME A CHILD... AND MADE ME THINK I'D LOST HER.

ELEKTRA... I'M SO SORRY.

I know who did this to you.

IT WAS ALL A LIE. TH...TH...

THANK GOD.





IF THERE'S NO CHILD, THEN THERE IS NO CHILD FOR ME TO FAIL.

THERE IS NO CHILD FOR ME TO CORRUPT.



I didn't do this to you, Elektra.

THERE IS NO ONE TO JUDGE ME.

I AM FREE AGAIN. THIS IS...

...A HAPPY ENDING.



WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?



I THINK YOU KNOW.



NO ONE DOES THIS TO ME. NO ONE.

THANK YOU. I MEAN IT. BUT DON'T GET IN MY WAY.

I didn't do this.



But that doesn't mean it's not my fault.

THE END?



